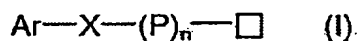


Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Currently Amended) A method for selecting at least one catalyst from a library of catalysts for its reactivity with regard to a chemical conversion, comprising:
 - a) testing the catalytic activity of a first catalyst belonging to said library of catalysts with regard to a reaction medium comprising, as compound to be converted, at least one reactivity probe having a specific or nonspecific labeling system and comprising at least one reaction unit capable of reacting according to said chemical conversion, said labeling system being a compound of general formula (I):



with:

Ar representing a condensed or noncondensed aryl group which can comprise one or more heteroatoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, it being possible for said group to be substituted by one or more halogen atoms, C₁-C₅ alkoxy groups and/or phenoxy groups,

X representing a C₁-C₁₅ alkyl chain which can be interrupted by one or more oxygen atoms or ketone functional groups and which can, if appropriate, be substituted, or derivative or analog of this,

n representing 1 or 0,

P representing a labile unit, which provides for the bonding of said label of general formula (I) to the reactivity probe, and

□ representing the point of anchoring of the label to the reactivity probe,

b) analyzing, on conclusion of said catalytic test, said reaction medium so as to qualitatively and/or quantitatively characterize the compounds formed,

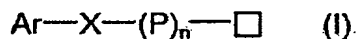
c) repeating stages a) and b) for at least one other catalyst of said library,

d) comparing the analytical results obtained for each catalyst so as to characterize at least one catalyst having the required reactivity with regard to said chemical conversion.

2. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction medium comprises at least two types of reactivity probe, each type of probe comprising at least one reaction unit capable of reacting with at least one unit present on the other type of probe according to said chemical conversion.

3. (Currently Amended) A method for characterizing at least one catalytic application of a catalyst, comprising:

a) testing the catalytic activity of a first catalyst with regard to a reaction medium comprising, as compounds to be converted, a series of reactivity probes, each probe being different from one another and comprising at least one reaction unit capable of reacting with at least one other unit present on a separate or nonseparate probe, each probe having a labeling system being a compound of general formula (I):



with:

Ar representing a condensed or noncondensed aryl group which can comprise one or more heteroatoms chosen from nitrogen, oxygen and sulfur, it being possible for said group to be substituted by one or more halogen atoms, C₁-C₅ alkoxy groups and/or phenoxy groups,

X representing a C₁-C₁₅ alkyl chain which can be interrupted by one or more oxygen atoms or ketone functional groups and which can, if appropriate, be substituted, or derivative or analog of this,

n representing 1 or 0,

P representing a labile unit, such as, for example, an ester functional group, a benzyl bond or an Si-O bond, which provides for the bonding of said label of general formula (I) to the reactivity probe, and

□ representing the point of anchoring of the label to the reactivity probe,

- b) analyzing, on conclusion of said catalytic test, said reaction medium so as to qualitatively and/or quantitatively characterize the compounds formed,
- c) repeating stages a) and b) for at least one other catalyst,
- d) comparing the analytical results obtained for each catalyst so as to distinguish, from the common data, the data specific to each analysis carried out according to stage b),
- e) characterizing the compound or compounds corresponding to these specific data, and
- f) qualifying and/or quantifying the catalytic reactivity of the corresponding catalyst or catalysts.

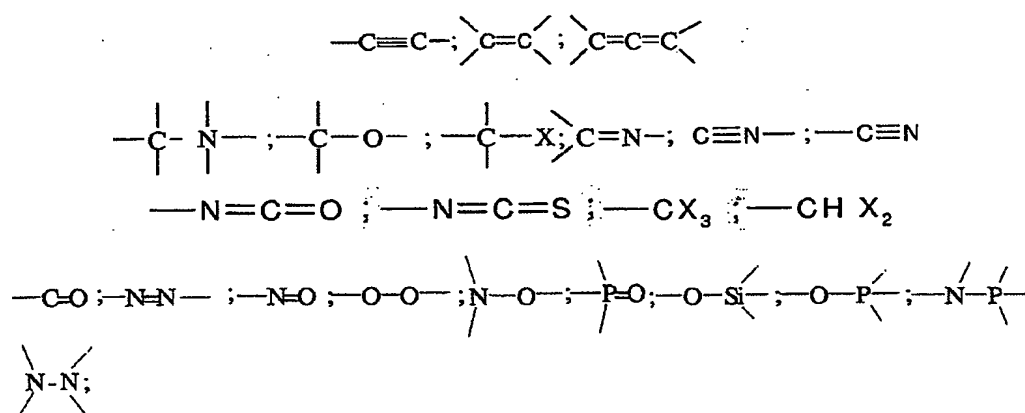
4. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 2, wherein each probe has a labeling system.

5. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 4, wherein each probe has a specific labeling system.

6. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein each probe has a single reaction unit.

7. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein a reaction unit is composed of a saturated bond of a carbon atom with at least one halogen atom and/or one heteroatom or an unsaturated bond between two carbon atoms, between a carbon atom and at least one heteroatom or between two identical or different heteroatoms.

8. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the reaction unit is chosen from:



with X representing a halogen atom.

9. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the label has an electronic structure such that the probe-label system emits, when it is subjected to chemical or photochemical ionization, a signal with an intensity at least 5 times greater than that emitted by the same probe not associated with said label.

10-11. (Canceled)

12. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the probe-labeling system combinations brought into contact are distinguished by their molecular weight.

13. (Currently Amended) The method as claimed in claim 12, wherein theythe probe-labeling system combinations carry the same labeling system.

14. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein the analysis in stage b) is carried out by mass spectrometry.

15. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein it involves the APPI technique.

16. (Previously Presented) The method as claimed in claim 14, wherein the mass spectrometer is coupled to a chromatography device.

17. (Previously Presented) A computer system of use in the implementation of a method as claimed in claim 1, wherein it comprises at least one computer server arranged for:

a) archiving, for each catalyst tested according to said method, the group of the data acquired during the analysis of the corresponding reaction medium,

b) comparing the data archived for the group of the catalysts tested for the purpose of characterizing specific catalytic reactivities, and

c) archiving the specific reactivities detected according to stage b).

18. (New) The method as claimed in claim 1, wherein P represents a labile unit selected from the group consisting of an ester functional group, a benzyl bond, and an Si-O bond.

19. (New) The method as claimed in claim 3, wherein P represents a labile unit selected from the group consisting of an ester functional group, a benzyl bond, and an Si-O bond.